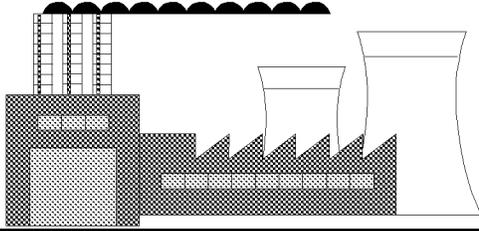


PROPERTY TAX NEWS



Vol. 12 No. 2

April - June, 2002

STATE REAL PROPERTY TAX RATE SET

The 2002 state real property tax rate has been set at 13.5 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation. Under House Bill 44, the rate must be reviewed each year and adjusted to ensure that no more than a 4 percent cumulative increase in revenues is realized over the previous year. Before enactment of House Bill 44 in 1979, the state rate was 31.5 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation. The 2002 rate represents a decline of 1/10 of a cent from the 2001 rate of 13.6.

According to Revenue Cabinet Secretary Dana Mayton, "The estimated total real property assessment for the 2002 tax year is \$151 billion up from 143 billion in 2001."

The establishment of the 2002 tax rate will enable those counties certified by the Revenue Cabinet to proceed with tax bill preparation once the local rates are set.

ELECTION NEWS

Prior to the January filing deadline, twelve Property Valuation Administrators (PVAs) made a decision not to run for office. Primary election races for the office of PVA were held in 27 counties. This fall 93 incumbent PVAs will be running unopposed in the November 5 general election.

Counties that will have general elections in the fall are:

| | | |
|----------|-----------|----------|
| Allen | Fayette | Magoffin |
| Anderson | Green | Pike |
| Bell | Hart | Taylor |
| Campbell | Jefferson | Todd |
| Daviess | Johnson | Warren |
| Estill | Letcher | Wayne |

House Bill 31, enacted by the 2002 General Assembly, changes the date of the primary election from the fourth Tuesday in May to the third Tuesday. This will begin next year with the Gubernatorial election.

AGENDA SET FOR SUMMER CONFERENCE

The agenda has been finalized for the 2002 PVA Summer Conference in Bowling Green the week of July 15. Registration will begin Monday afternoon. Concurrent workshops will be held Tuesday morning featuring the following topics: Retirement, Deferred Compensation and Internet Vehicle Registration. The conference will conclude Thursday with the Revenue Cabinet program featuring workshops on budget, the fee schedule, computer issues and education. The traditional banquet and dance will be held Thursday night beginning at 7:00.

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**NEWS FROM THE PVA
ADMINISTRATIVE
SUPPORT BRANCH**

By Kim Holt

The PVA Administrative Support Branch would like to welcome our new employee, Maria Brown. Maria started in the Branch on April 16, 2002, and has previously worked for the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy.

Payroll Time and Labor Progress

We are extremely proud to announce that we now have 36 counties for 336 employees entering their own Time & Attendance into the PTL system. We are adding new counties every pay period and will be contacting many of you in the future.

Health Insurance

Open Enrollment for Health Insurance is tentatively scheduled from September 16th - October 4th, 2002. There is a strong possibility that this will be a total re-enrollment, which means that every employee will have to fill out a new application. We will pass along more information when it becomes definite.

The office is currently working on revisions to the PVA Fiscal and Personnel Administration Manual and we hope to have these mailed out to the offices by Summer Conference.

*****Reminders*****

During the new fiscal year (2002-2003), no PVA Office funds can be expended unless an approved budget has been received from this office.

During an election year, the PVA must retain 60% of county funds in the office for the first 5 months. Deputy Hire payments are not included in the 40%/60% retention rule.

GIS CONFERENCE UPDATE

The agenda for the 2002 GIS Conference has been set. This year members of the Indiana/Kentucky/Ohio (IKO) chapter of the Geospatial Information and Technology Association (GITA) will be participating in the conference.

Several PVAs are involved in this year's conference. Jeff Kelley, Webster County PVA; Ronnie Heady, Crittenden County PVA; and Mike Tackett of the Division of Technical Support, are presenting a workshop on the tornado damage assessment in Webster County; Karen Bushart, Clark County PVA and her deputy, Dane Garber, are presenting a workshop on Digital Mapping for Property Valuation. Optional workshops are also scheduled for Monday afternoon and Thursday.

The Keynote Speaker will be Bruce Oswald, Director of the newly formed New York Center for Geographic Information. Oswald will discuss "New Yorks' GIS Response to 9/11: People Coming Together to Make a Difference."

A complete agenda and list of workshop topics can be found at the OGIS website:<http://ogis.state.ky.us>. Online registration is also available. The website also has links to the GITA website and the Drawbridge Inn.

More and more PVAs are jumping on the GIS bandwagon. Currently only 25 counties are not in some stage of the GIS process. This conference presents PVAs with the opportunity to discover the capabilities of GIS and how others are using it.

**KAREN BUSHART NAMED
CITIZEN OF THE YEAR**

Karen Bushart, Clark County PVA, was named Citizen of the Year by the Winchester/Clark County Chamber of Commerce at their annual banquet May 2, 2002.

Bushart was honored for her work serving on the Clark County Habitat for Humanity Board and the board of Hospice East. In addition, she has served as chair for the Clark County GIS consortium since its inception and two terms as President of the Winchester/Clark County Chamber of Commerce.

Congratulations, Karen, on this well deserved honor.



**RETIREMENT
RECEPTION AND GOLF
SCRAMBLE**

The PVA Association will host a retirement banquet and golf scramble on Thursday, September 5, 2002. The golf scramble will be held in the morning at Elizabethtown Country Club, while the banquet is tentatively scheduled for the Stone Hearth restaurant. The Department is also planning a workshop for Friday morning.

The golf scramble will benefit KECC, the Kentucky Employees Charitable Campaign. You will receive more information once the details are finalized.



~~Maps were then printed and provided to~~ the city to assist in clean-up and repairs. This information may also have helped in receiving disaster assistance from FEMA.

These files were given to the Webster County PVA to assist them in checking those properties for the January 1, 2003 assessment date.

The Webster County PVA Office and residents of Providence would like to thank Commissioner Lang, Mike Tackett, Ronnie Heady, Randy Ware, and all other volunteers who aided in this time of disaster.

DIVISION OF TECHNICAL SUPPORT CONTINUES TO BRANCH OUT

Daniel Logan, Director
Division of Technical Support

The Division of Technical Support has continued to expand its range of customers and service throughout the commonwealth. From reaching out to more counties in need of GIS, to lending a hand across department and cabinet lines, the Division keeps reaching more goals while adding more projects.

The Cartography Branch has now assisted in completing 50 GIS counties. There are now 94 counties with either their parcels digitized or their maps scanned. This year's fall conference will once again have a scanning/GIS support room. We hope this will bring us that much closer to our goal of digitizing the entire state.

To further help in our process, the Division has begun training field representatives from the Division of Local Valuation on the basics of GIS. Our goal is to have as many Property Valuation employees as we can knowledgeable in GIS. These field reps, along with our division, will be able to offer more timely and effective support throughout the state.

The Division has also started several projects outside of property tax. We have recently begun digitizing the new Pine Mountain Trail. This project will not only benefit the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet, but gets our Division started on the digitizing of some of the counties along the trail.

There is one area the Division continues to pay special attention to. When a natural disaster strikes a county the division has always shown tremendous support in assessing the damage caused. Whether it is producing digitized maps to be sent to FEMA or recording GPS points, the

Division has been one of the first on the scene to provide help. If there is ever anything the Division can do to help any county please call us at (502) 564-8334.

GPS USED TO ASSESS PROPERTY DAMAGE IN WEBSTER COUNTY

On April 28, 2002, a F3 tornado ripped through Webster County, damaging properties in and around the city of Providence, Ky., including the residence of Webster County PVA Jeff Kelley.

Upon hearing the news, Commissioner Vince Lang sent Mike Tackett from the Division of Technical Support to assist in documenting and assessing the damages.

When Mike arrived in Webster County the PVA Office provided him with a base map, road lines, and most recent parcel line files.

Mike, along with Ronnie Heady, Crittenden County PVA, visited the storm area and used a GPS Unit to locate damaged structures, made notes concerning damaged properties, and took digital photographs.

Two days later Mike came back and made a final inspection with the assistance of Randy Ware of the Webster County Road Department.

KENTUCKY EMPLOYEES' CHARITABLE CAMPAIGN (KECC) KICKOFF

The 2002 Kentucky Employees' Charitable Campaign is fast approaching and will kick-off on Monday, July 22.

There will be many opportunities to support this very important endeavor including payroll deductions and golf scrambles. Using the payroll deduction form to give to others throughout Kentucky is the best way to make a difference. Payroll deduction forms will be distributed at the summer conference, and keep watching for more details regarding other KECC fundraising activities.

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESSES FOR FOUR COUNTIES

Four new counties have been added to the wide area network and now have e-mail. The counties and their e-mail addresses are:

Breathitt: Ervin.AllenJr@mail.state.ky.us
Carroll: DavidW.Robertson@mail.state.ky.us
Pulaski: ThomasW.Todd@mail.state.ky.us
Shelby: WilliamBrad.McDowell@mail.state.ky.us

The Magoffin County PVA office has moved. Their new location is 457 Parkway Drive, Salyersville. The mailing address (P.O. Box 148) and phone number remain the same.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS JULY - SEPTEMBER 2002

| | | |
|--|-----------------|----------------|
| KY 50: Basic Personal Property | July 8-11 | Frankfort |
| PVA Summer Conference | July 15-18 | Bowling Green |
| KY 71: Commercial Appraisal/Cost Approach | July 22-25 | Frankfort |
| KY 80: Residential Real Property Appraisal | July 29-Aug.1 | Frankfort |
| KY 10: The Kentucky Property Tax System | Aug. 5-8 | Frankfort |
| IAAO 600: Cadastral Mapping | Aug. 5-9 | Frankfort |
| GIS Conference | Aug. 12-15 | Ft. Mitchell |
| TRIM Tax Bill Workshops | Aug. 13-16 | Frankfort |
| KY 62: Precision Data Collection | Aug. 19-22 | Falls of Rough |
| KY 60: Mapping System Maintenance | Aug. 26-29 | Mt. Olivet |
| KY 40: Property Tax Assessment Administration | Aug. 26-29 | Frankfort |
| KY 10: The Kentucky Property Tax System | Sept. 9-12 | Lucas |
| IAAO 500: Assessment of Personal Property | Sept. 9-13 | Frankfort |
| KY 90: Farm Real Property Appraisal | Sept. 16-19 | Frankfort |
| KY 49: PVA Office Management | Sept. 16-19 | Falls of Rough |
| KY 44: Practical Math for Assessment Officials | Sept. 16-19 | Lucas |
| Quicken Workshop | Sept. 18-19 | Frankfort |
| Quicken Workshop | Sept. 25-26 | Frankfort |
| KY 50: Basic Personal Property | Sept. 30-Oct. 3 | Owensboro |

Remember that all Kentucky Courses being held in Frankfort have been moved to 200 Fair Oaks.

EDUCATION UPDATE

The following classes are in danger of being cancelled due to low enrollment:

- Ky 62 Aug. 19-22
- KY 10 Sept. 9-12
- KY 49 Sept. 16-19
- KY 44 Sept. 16-19
- KY 50 Sept. 30-Oct. 3

If you were planning on attending any of these classes, please register as soon as possible.

TRIM TAX BILL CLASS

The TRIM staff will conduct one-day workshops for those counties printing tax bills using the TRIM system August 13-16. Classes will be held in the 200 Fair Oaks Building, Training Room F. To register, complete a class registration form and fax it to (502) 564-8368.

The Department is also offering a two-day workshop in Quicken 2002, Sept. 18 - 19 and Sept. 25 and 26. Participants attending this workshop should already have or intend to purchase the software.

Two IAAO classes are already being planned for next year.

IAAO 601, Advanced Mapping, is scheduled for April 28-May 2, 2003. The instructor will be Rick Norejko, CMS, of Asheville, North Carolina. Norejko is the Buncombe County Land Records Officer and helped develop Course 601. Advanced Mapping is a recent addition to the IAAO schedule and is now required for anyone wishing to obtain an IAAO Cadastral Mapping Specialist (CMS) designation.

IAAO 402, Tax Policy, will be held June 16 - 20, 2003. The instructor will be Jewette Farley, CAE, Assessor of Lincoln Parrish, Louisiana. Farley has taught IAAO 400 twice in Kentucky. Tax Policy is required for candidates wishing to obtain an Assessment Administration Specialist (AAS) designation.

Anyone interested in obtaining either IAAO designation should plan to take these classes next year.



Property Tax News is a quarterly publication of the Revenue Cabinet's Department of Property Valuation dedicated to increasing communication among professionals involved in the field of assessment administration in Kentucky.

Comments and suggestions for future articles should be addressed to Cindy Meholovitch, Editor, 200 Fair Oaks Lane, Frankfort, KY 40620, (502) 564-8340.

Printing costs paid from state funds.

